

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, and 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilors Rivers, Washington and Merritt

Also present were: Chief Paul Hammick, Philip K. Scheck, Jr., Town Manager, India Rodgers, Clerk of Council, Pat Braun – EMS

Absent were: Councilor Hypolite, Chief William Riley – Center Fire District and Chief Robert Farmer – Blue Hills Fire District

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of September 15, 2015.

POLICE

The police department budget is on track with no issues to report.

Crime

There was an increase in crime 7% for the month of August. There were two robberies on Blue Hills Avenue, several larcenies involving two couples stealing coats from Burlington Coat Factory. In addition, there were four sexual assault incidents involving a domestic violence case with children in the home.

The Patrol Division will continue their focus on traffic and speed enforcement. Most of this enforcement activity has been funded through state DOT grants. In addition, commercial traffic enforcement will be included for Brown Street. There will be a vehicle and speed counter installed at this location. Mr. Schenck, Jr. stated that stripping was completed on Maple and Brown Streets for walkers and bikers.

Mr. Schenck, Jr. also informed Chief Hammick that the department received a commendation letter regarding the appropriate handling of a raccoon incident and the issuance of various citations of parking for University of Hartford students.

There has been an uptick for the month of September with disturbances involving University of Hartford students off campus housing locations at:

- 15 Ashley Court
- 563 Bloomfield Avenue
- 40 Wintonbury Avenue

- 555 Bloomfield Avenue
- 44 Cliffmount Drive

All students at these locations were noticed by the police department regarding noise ordinances, parking and various other issues involving disturbances.

There were no citizen complaints or use of force incidents for the month of September.

The department did receive an FOI complaint requesting a video copy of a Motor Vehicle stop. There was a discrepancy regarding the cost for the DVD, it was rectified and changed to the correct amount. This complaint was

Personnel Updates

There are currently 49 sworn police officers, total of 61 departmental personnel.

Chief Hammick reported that Sergeant Nick Aliano is scheduled to retire on October 16, 2015. Mr. Robert White, Police Dispatcher will retire on October 17, 2015. The department will actively recruit for the position of a Part-Time Dispatcher.

Officer Lisa Weisbrich began the police academy the first week in October. She is currently doing very well.

Officer Jonathan Sykes graduated the Police Academy in September 2015 and is currently doing well in FTO training. Certified Officer Stacey Thomas from West Hartford, CT was hired for the department and has been doing exceptionally well since his arrival in September.

In September, oral panels were held and there is now an active certified list for recruitment. It was noted that there are currently 12 officers eligible for retirement within the year.

There were 3 applicants that did not successfully pass required exams for the Police Cadet Program. The department will re-announce positions for the Police Cadet Program to Bloomfield High School and other local educational/vocational entities. The Hartford Police Academy volunteered to offer multi week training for future police cadets.

CALEA

Chief Hammick did receive the assessment report of the department. The report was very positive and the recommendation was made to receive national accreditation. Chief Hammick stated that he will be in attendance at the Annual CALEA Conference in November, where the final results should be presented.

EMS

Chief Hammick reported that BVA continue to fill shifts with their volunteers.

There will be no EMT classes this fall. The open vacancy for part time Assistant BVA Coordinator was re-advertised. The position was offered and accepted, however it was later declined.

BVA

BVA participated in the Car Cruise and Chili-Cook off event at Sacred Heart Church. The fundraiser for the 2nd power loader continues with a special plea to businesses. The fundraiser for the general fund drive will go out to town residents.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chief Hammick gave a status update on the possibility of obtaining body cameras for the department. There is no new additional information on the research for body cameras. The department will continue to review prospective vendors for purchasing.

COMMENTS

Councilor Rivers reiterated the need to remain consistent with training officers. There was a brief discussion of what officers currently receive for training and the implementation of new trainings offered due to the overall police relations climate nationwide.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Rivers, seconded by Councilor Merritt to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.